

## Command post; eyes and ears of Wolf Pack

By Tech. Sgt. Christopher Burke  
8th Fighter Wing command post

The other day, as I was walking past the base exchange, I heard the familiar tones of the base giant voice system ring out and then a voice said, "This is Wolf Pack, the patriot express..." And as the voice continued, I overheard a young airman ask another, "Who is Wolf Pack?" That's where I step in.

The 8th Fighter Wing command post is "Wolf Pack," the "eyes and ears of the Wolf." The command post is one-half of two organizations that make up the wing operations center. The maintenance operations center is the other half of the team.

The WOC works directly for the commander, although the two shops have different roles in the mission. The command post has many responsibilities, with the most important being emergency actions. Two controllers are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, and are certified in Joint Chiefs of Staff and Pacific Air Forces emergency actions procedures. These are actions that deal with the go-to-war orders that emanate from the president and flow down to the wing level. They are required to validate these orders and ensure they are relayed and followed.

The controllers are also responsible for dealing with things such as tracking key wing personnel movement, transmitting message traffic on base accidents and incidents to higher headquarters, following the fighter squadron's flights, in-flight emergencies, medical helicopter take-offs, Red Cross notifications, and many other incidents and emergencies. The controllers have a book of 70 quick-reaction checklists dealing with a variety of recurring and non-recurring situations. The controllers are also responsible for notifying national, major command and wing leadership on all these different situations.

The WOC is also home to the battle staff and the survival recovery center. These entities stand up during real world contingencies, exercises, accidents and any other situations the Wolf deems necessary.

The command post is the place from where all



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brian Hill

8th Fighter Wing Wing Operations Center members Technical Sgt. Christopher Burke, senior operations controller, Master Sgt. Patrick Austin, training superintendent, and Senior Airman Tara Lane, junior operations controller, man the command post as part of the wing operations center. The command post is manned with a two-person team 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

these operations are handled. The battle staff is made up of the senior wing leadership while the SRC is composed of individuals from base agencies such as medical, security forces, civil engineer readiness, fire department, explosive ordnance disposal and communications. The SRC provides support and guidance to the wing leadership on all matters dealing with peace-time disasters and war.

The other half of the WOC, the MOC, is responsible for tracking and coordinating all maintenance activities of the F-16s assigned here. They also handle responsibilities such as directing fuel distribution, life support, and aircraft status reporting. Three controllers

man the MOC per shift with the MOC senior controller overseeing the shift. Each squadron has a status board that is manned by a MOC controller who's assigned to that specific squadron for their shift. They work with the flight line maintainers in coordinating everything necessary is completed to ensure the assigned flying lines are met.

The command post and the MOC are the information "hubs" for Kunsan, and if it's happening on Kunsan, the WOC will know about it. So, the next time you hear "This is Wolf Pack..." over the giant voice, you'll know just who "Wolf Pack" is — they are the "eyes and ears of the Wolf."

## Area Defense Counsel here to guard your rights

By Staff Sgt. Robert Hughes  
Area Defense Counsel

You have just had your rights read to you by your commander, first sergeant, or a member of the Office of Special Investigations. You are stunned and confused and don't know what to do. You have the right to contact the Area Defense Counsel.

Under Article 31 of the *Uniform Code of Military Justice* and the 5th Amendment of the *U.S. Constitution*, you cannot be forced to write or make a statement. In other words, you cannot be forced to provide information about a crime that you have been accused of or give information that may incriminate you or be used against you. In addition, you have the right to be represented by counsel.

Quite often, a person may make a statement that incriminates them because the situation confuses them and they aren't really sure what to do. Just because you're in the military does not mean you give up your right to be represented by counsel.

If you are suspected of a crime and



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brian Hill

Staff Sgt. Robert Hughes, Area Defense Counsel paralegal, and Capt. Marc Koblente, Area Defense Counsel, review a new case.

you have been advised of your rights, it is very important that you pay close attention to those rights. The person advising you of your rights may be very nice and cordial to you and tell you things like, "We are here to help you" or "If you cooperate we will go easy on you." In a situation like this, it is easy

to be intimidated and "spill your guts" because you don't want to be thought of as not cooperating if you elect not to provide a statement. Asking to speak to an attorney first doesn't make you uncooperative nor is it an admission of guilt; it's just a precaution to ensure you understand your rights and that you

understand what is happening. In some circumstances, it may ultimately benefit you to speak to the investigator or provide a statement, but by all means, you may ask to speak to an attorney first — then you can always go back and make a statement if you and the attorney feel that will help your case. If you decide to provide a statement or answer questions before consulting an attorney, keep in mind that you have the right to stop the questioning at any time and ask to speak with the ADC.

In addition to answering questions concerning your rights, the ADC can help you with other issues such as any adverse actions you may be facing. The ADC can represent you in adverse actions including courts-martial, article 15 action, discharge action, referral officer or enlisted performance reports, letters of reprimand and more.

Above all, if you are suspected of committing a crime or are facing any adverse action, remember, you have the right to remain silent and you have the right to consult an attorney. If you have any questions, call the ADC at 782-4848. It's your right!